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OO RUEHBC RUEHDE RUEHDH RUEHKUK RUEHROV
DE RUEHAS #0443 1241628
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O 041628Z MAY 09
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7431
INFO RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 0070
RUEHBW/AMEMBASSY BELGRADE 0016
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 0107
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1837
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 3126
RUEHPS/AMEMBASSY PRISTINA 0018
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0501

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 000443

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/02/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [KV](#) [AG](#)

SUBJECT: ALGERIA TO ABSTAIN ON KOSOVO JOINING IMF

REF: SECSTATE 41665

Classified By: DCM Thomas F. Daughton for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶1. (U) DCM delivered reftel demarche to MFA Director General for Economic Affairs and International Cooperation (Assistant Secretary equivalent) Amar Abba on May 4. Abba reported that Algeria would cast an abstention vote at the IMF by the May 5 deadline. He also implied that Algeria would probably do the same for the World Bank vote, and acknowledged that deadline of June 3. Abba said that the Algerian Central Bank Governor had already been advised to cast the IMF abstention, and that a formal, written instruction to do so would be delivered to him by COB May 4.

¶2. (C) Separately, Central Bank Governor Mohamed Laksaci told us that he had received the informal instruction, and was only waiting to receive the "documentation" from the MFA before casting the vote. He said he would cast the vote by fax, and was well aware of the 6 p.m. Washington deadline on May 5.

¶3. (C) Abba indicated that Algeria normally would not participate in such a vote because it has not recognized Kosovo's independence. In this instance, he said, the GOA was abstaining because it had been asked specifically to do so by the USG and other nations (which he did not name). Abba added that Algeria considered the IMF vote to be quite separate from discussions at the UN regarding independence. He admitted that with Saudi Arabia's recent recognition of Kosovo, the issue was "dynamic" among Arab countries, but added that the question of Kosovo's independence remained "difficult."

PEARCE